

**Natural Resources Conservation Service**

**Application Ranking Summary**

**Piscataquis Pasture**

<b>Program:</b>	<b>Ranking Date:</b>	<b>Application Number:</b>
<b>Ranking Tool:</b> Piscataquis Pasture		<b>Applicant:</b>
<b>Final Ranking Score:</b>		<b>Address:</b>
<b>Planner:</b>		<b>Telephone:</b>
<b>Farm Location:</b>		

**National Priorities Addressed**

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.	
1. a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Quality - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
2. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to animal feeding operations, or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a designated "impaired water body" (TMDL, 303d, etc.)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a "non-impaired water body"?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer implement conservation practices which:	
3. a. Decrease aquifer overdraft?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Conserve water from irrigation system improvements and saved water will be available for other beneficial uses?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c. Conserve water in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Clean Air: Treatment of air quality from agricultural sources - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
4. a. Meet on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. b. Reduce on-farm generated green house gases such as CO <sub>2</sub> (Carbon Dioxide), CH <sub>4</sub> (Methane), and N <sub>2</sub> O (Nitrous Oxide)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. c. Increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Soil Health: Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. b. Improve soil tilth, organic matter, structure, health, etc.?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Healthy Plant and Animal Communities Wildlife Habitat Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
6. a. Benefit on-farm habitat associated with threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern as identified in a State wildlife plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. b. Help retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
High Quality, Productive Soils, Healthy Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project assist the producer implement practices which:	

7. a. Help manage or control noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. b. Increase, or improve habitat to benefit pollinator or other targeted wildlife species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. c. Properly dispose of livestock carcasses?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. d. Are identified in an Integrated Pest Management plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. e. Are identified in a Nutrient Management plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. f. Apply principles of adaptive nutrient management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Energy Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practices which:	
8. a. Reduce energy consumption on the agricultural operation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. b. Increase on-farm energy efficiency with practices and improvements identified in an approved energy audit equivalent to criteria required in Ag EMP (122,124)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. c. Assist in implementing energy conservation measures that also reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Business Lines - Conservation Implementation Additional Ranking Considerations - Will the proposed project result in:	
9. a. Implementation of all conservation practices scheduled in the contract on the CPA-1155 within three years of date of obligation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. b. Improvement of existing conservation practices or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is accepted?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. c. Implementation of practice(s) which will complete an existing conservation system or suite of practices?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

#### State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1 will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the State priority category.	
1. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other State level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section. 400 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
If the application is NOT for the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), Answer questions 2-10 are pertinent to the application:	
2. Will Code 528-Prescribed Grazing, be implemented as part of this application? 100 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. STATE PRIORITY ISSUE: SOIL – EROSION - Classic gully erosion is not at the QC at the benchmark condition but will be with proposed action? 75 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. STATE PRIORITY ISSUE: WATER QUALITY – Excessive nutrients and organics in surface water - not at the QC at the benchmark condition but will be with proposed action? 75 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. STATE PRIORITY ISSUE: WATER QUALITY – Excessive suspended sediment and turbidity in surface water - not at the QC at the benchmark condition but will be with proposed action? 75 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. PLANT CONDITION – Noxious and invasive plants - not at the QC at the benchmark condition but will be with proposed action? 15 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. SOIL CONDITION – Organic matter depletion is not at the QC at the benchmark condition but will be with proposed action? 15 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. SOIL CONDITION – Compaction is not at the QC at the benchmark condition but will be with proposed action? 15 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. WATER QUALITY – Harmful levels of pesticides in ground water - not at the QC at the benchmark condition but will be with proposed action? 15 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
10. WATER QUALITY – Harmful levels of pathogens in surface water - not at the QC at the benchmark condition but will be with proposed action? 15 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

#### Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
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If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1 will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the Local priority category.		
1. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other Local level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section. 250 points		Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
If the application is NOT for the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), Answer the remaining questions as pertinent to the application. ANSWER ONLY ONE of 2a or 2b.		
2. a. Will the project address SEVERE fish passage barriers as defined in the 2008 Mid-Penobscot Stream Barrier Survey? 50 points		Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. Will the project address MODERATE fish passage barriers as defined in the 2008 Mid-Penobscot Stream Barrier Survey? 25 points		Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Stream process: Will the project improve the natural stream process if implemented? If yes, award 50 points.		Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Is the project located in a designated Eastern Brook Trout Priority Area? If yes, award 25 points.		Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Is the proposed project located in a designated Atlantic Salmon critical habitat watershed? If yes, award 25 points		Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. PLANT CONDITION-Plants not adapted or suited: Not at Quality Criteria at the benchmark condition, but will be with the proposed action? If yes, award 10 points		Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. PLANT CONDITION- Productivity, health and vigor: Not at Quality Criteria at the benchmark condition, but will be with the proposed action? If yes, award 15 points		Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. PLANT CONDITION-Forage quality and palatability: Not at Quality Criteria at the benchmark condition, but will be with the proposed action? If yes, award 10 points		Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. ANIMALS-Domestic animals-Inadequate quantities and quality of feed and forage: Not at Quality Criteria at the benchmark condition, but will be with the proposed action? If yes, award 15 points.		Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
10. ANIMALS-Domestic animals-Animal health: Will the proposed action significantly improve animal health and well-being? If yes, award 25 points		Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
11. ANIMALS-Domestic animals: Is the proposed project required to implement a state or federal nutrient management regulation? If yes, award 25 points		Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

**Land Use:**

Resource Concerns	Practices
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**Ranking Score**

Efficiency:  Local Issues:  State Issues:  National Issues:  <b>Final Ranking Score:</b>
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This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

<b>NRCS Representative:</b>   <b>Signature Date:</b>	<b>Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy:</b>   <b>Signature Date:</b>
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